

The Lexile Framework FAQ for Parents and Caregivers

What is a Lexile Level?:

The lexile measurement is an educational tool to help teachers and parents connect children with books. A Lexile measures a child's reading ability and text difficulty on the same scale. The Lexile Framework is not a reading program (like the Accelerated Reader) and it is not a test.

Why is my school giving me this information?:

Providing the Lexile measure on SOL grade reports will help parents to improve their child's reading skills. When parents are aware of their child's Lexile measure, they will be able to choose books that their child can read without frustration and still grow in their reading skills.

What do the numbers mean?

The Lexile scale begins at "below 200L" for beginning readers to 1700L for advanced readers.

Which books should I choose?

The target books for a child should be 100L below their lexile level to 50L above. For example, if your child has an 800 lexile level good books will have a lexile range of 700L-850L.

How do I know what the Lexile level of a book is?

Teachers and librarians have some resources to help you find the lexile level of books, but a good source to become familiar with is the Lexile Book Search tool.

1. Go to www.lexile.com

LEXILE The Lexile Framework® for Reading
Linking assessment with reading instruction

The Lexile Framework for Reading is an educational tool that connects readers with reading materials using a common measure called a Lexile. Recognized as the most widely adopted reading measure, a Lexile denotes both reading ability and text difficulty on the same scale. When used together, Lexile reader measures and Lexile text measures enable educators, parents and students to select books and other targeted reading materials that meet and challenge a reader's unique abilities and interests.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LEXILE MEASURES SEARCH FOR BOOKS by Lexile measure & interests WATCH A QUICK OVERVIEW VIDEO ON THE LEXILE FRAMEWORK

educators Learn about Lexile measures in the classroom and library

families Learn about Lexile measures at home

2. In general, if you know the book you want to read, you can use the book database to just type in the title and find out the lexile level. If you want ideas on what to read, use the “Find a Book” website link in the right box.

The screenshot shows the homepage of 'The Lexile Framework for Reading'. The header includes the Lexile logo and the tagline 'Linking assessment with reading instruction'. A left sidebar contains a 'Menu' with links like 'Book Search', 'Book Search Instructions', 'Advanced Book Search', 'Spanish Book Search', 'Contacting Publishers', and 'Lexile Codes'. Below the menu is a 'Quick Titles Search' section with a text input field and a 'Search' button. The main content area is titled 'Book Search' and states: 'MetaMetrics now offers two quick and easy ways to find books by Lexile measure:'. It then presents two options in dashed boxes. The first, 'Lexile Book Database', is labeled '*Ideal for Educators' and describes using standard and advanced searches to find books by Lexile range, title, author, keyword, or ISBN. It includes a link 'Search the Lexile Book Database'. The second, '"Find A Book" Website', is labeled '*Ideal for Parents and Students' and describes building a summer reading list by Lexile range and personal interests, and checking book availability at a local library. It includes a link 'Visit the "Find A Book" Website'. Two arrows point from text boxes below to these two options.

Look up lexile measure of a book, or search a range.

Browse books by interest, build a reading list and see if your public library has the book!

3. Enter the lexile range, or your child's lexile level

The screenshot shows the Lexile 'Find a Book' website. At the top, there is a banner with the Lexile logo and the text 'Find the right BOOK for YOU!'. Below the banner, there is a navigation bar with four steps: 'Enter Lexile', 'Select Interests', 'Search Results', and 'My Reading List'. The 'Enter Lexile' step is currently active. It is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'My Lexile measure is:' and asks the user to enter a Lexile measure or range. It has input fields for 'Measure' (with a placeholder 'L') and 'Range' (with '500 L to 650 L'). Below these fields is a link 'Where can I find my Lexile measure?' and a 'Continue' button. The right column is titled 'I don't know my Lexile measure:' and asks the user to enter their grade level and check one of the options below. It has a dropdown menu for 'My current grade is:' set to 'Kindergarten'. Below this are three radio button options: 'I find the books I read for school difficult.', 'I find the books I read for school challenging, but not difficult.', and 'I find the books I read for school easy.'. There is also a 'Continue' button. An annotation box with the text 'Enter the level here.' has an arrow pointing to the 'Measure' input field in the left column.

LEXILE Find the right **BOOK** for **YOU!**

The "Find a Book" Web site is a quick and easy way to search the Lexile Book Database for titles at your reading (Lexile) level. Whether you're reading for school or for pleasure, you can use this site to build a custom reading list on the subjects that interest you the most.

Enter Lexile ▶ **Select Interests** ▶ **Search Results** ▶ **My Reading List**

My Lexile measure is:
Please enter either a Lexile measure or range.

Measure: L

Range: 500 L to 650 L

[Where can I find my Lexile measure?](#)

I don't know my Lexile measure:
Please enter your grade level and check one of the options below.

My current grade is: Kindergarten

☐ I find the books I read for school difficult.

☐ I find the books I read for school challenging, but not difficult.


☐ I find the books I read for school easy.

Enter the level here.


Remember that your child's lexile level is 100 below their score to 50 above. For example a child with a lexile score of 400, will have a range of 300L-450L.

4. Enter your child's interests

Find a Book: Four simple steps. One custom reading list.

 **My Reading List (0)**

Quick Search

 **[+]**

Enter Lexile ▶ Select Interests ▶ Search Results ▶ My Reading List

What kinds of books do you like?
Please select one or more interests and/or enter a keyword below. Click the [+] button to view and select subcategories. You will be able to refine your selection(s) later on.

Keyword Search

Interest Categories

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adventure [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Military [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Animals [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Music, TV, Movies, & more [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Art [+]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mystery [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Biography [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Business & Law [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Fairy Tales, Myths, & Folktales [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Reference & Languages [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Family, Childhood, & Education [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion & Beliefs [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Fantasy [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Romance [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction & Literature [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Science & Technology [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Food & Home [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Issues [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novels & Comics [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Health [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> History & Social Studies [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel & Places [+]
<input type="checkbox"/> Humor & Games [+]	<input type="checkbox"/> True Crime [+]

Your Lexile Range
500L to 650L
You will be able to adjust your Lexile range based on the results of your book search.

Simply check some of your child's interests or use the keyword search.

5. The following screen will give you a list of books and the “look it up” tab will tell you if your local library carries the book.

The screenshot shows the 'Find a Book' website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Find a Book: Four simple steps. One custom reading list.' and a 'My Reading List (0)' button. A 'Quick Search' box is also present. The main content area is titled 'Search Results' and shows a list of books. The first book is 'Encyclopedia Brown Carries On' by Sobol, Donald J., with a Lexile level of 570L. Other books listed include 'Haunted Beach House, The' and 'Knife, The'. Each book entry has a 'Look it up' button. A callout box with an arrow points to the 'Look it up' button, containing the text: 'Be sure to check “juvenile fiction” or “juvenile nonfiction”'. The right sidebar contains 'Refine Your Search' options, including sliders for age and Lexile range, and checkboxes for categories and book types.

You will still need to check your library’s catalog to see if the book is available or to place a hold.

Please Note: Only libraries that have their books cataloged through WorldCat will be listed using the “Look it up” button. Only 1/3 of the public libraries in Virginia have their books cataloged in WorldCat. Finding the books available at your library may require you to search the library catalog.

Are any of the books on the list right for my child?

No, the lexile measurement is just a tool, it does not measure age appropriateness or quality. Use your best judgement in choosing books, or ask your librarian for help.